



Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

13 September 2017

Jon Bertolino
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Sacramento Municipal Utility District
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NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY (NOA); GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER R5-2016-0076 FOR LIMITED THREAT DISCHARGES TO SURFACE WATER; ICE HOUSE RESERVOIR AUXILIARY DAM PROJECT, EL DORADO COUNTY

Our office received a Notice of Intent application on 10 August 2017 from the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (hereinafter Discharger) for discharge of treated groundwater to surface water from its Ice House Reservoir Auxiliary Dam Project (Project). Based on the application packet and subsequent information submitted by the Discharger, staff has determined that the Project meets the required conditions for approval under the General Order for Limited Threat Discharges to Surface Water (Limited Threat General Order), Tier 1A. This project is hereby assigned Limited Threat General Order R5-2016-0076-013 and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CAG995002. Please reference your Limited Threat General Order number, **R5-2016-0076-013**, in your correspondence and submitted documents.

The enclosed Limited Threat General Order may also be viewed at the following web address: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/adopted_orders/general_orders/r5-2016-0076_mod.pdf. You are urged to familiarize yourself with the contents of the entire document. The Limited Threat General Order prescribes mandatory discharge monitoring and reporting requirements. The Project activities shall be operated in accordance with the requirements contained in this NOA and the Limited Threat General Order.

CALIFORNIA TOXICS RULE / STATE IMPLEMENTATION POLICY MONITORING

The Limited Threat General Order incorporates the requirements of the California Toxics Rule (CTR) and the State Water Resources Control Board's (State Water Board), *Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California*, 2005, also known as the State Implementation Policy (SIP). Screening levels for CTR constituents and other constituents of concern are found in Attachment I of the Limited Threat General Order. Review of your influent water quality data in comparison to the screening values, showed no reasonable potential for the discharge to cause or contribute to an exceedance of water quality objectives in the unnamed tributary to Jones Fork, Silver Creek, which is a water of the United States.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Project is located on the north shore of the Ice House Reservoir within the El Dorado National Forest in Unincorporated El Dorado County, California (Attachment A – Project Location Map). The existing toe drain at the base of the Ice House Reservoir Auxiliary Dam consists of a trench,

approximately four feet deep and two feet wide, with a layer of cobble rocks, overlain by a layer of 0.5 inch diameter gravel and then a layer of compacted fill material. The toe drain on the east side has become blocked over time and caused an upward flow of seepage water to the ground surface. The Discharger will excavate the existing material in the toe drain, construct a new toe drain, and replace the drain pipeline to the Ice House Reservoir Dam weir. During construction, groundwater will be encountered due to the proximity to the Ice House Reservoir Dam. The Discharger plans to collect the groundwater encountered during construction into a Baker tank to reduce turbidity. The effluent will then flow through a two-tank sand media filter which will address any remaining turbidity of the effluent. After filtration, approximately 0.086 million gallons of effluent per day will be discharged into the existing Ice House Reservoir Auxiliary Dam drainage, an unnamed, ephemeral tributary to Jones Fork, Silver Creek. The existing drainage flows for approximately 0.5 miles before confluence with a stream and only receives flow from Ice House Reservoir Auxiliary Dam. The Project is a short term project with construction expected to last approximately six weeks.

EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS

Effluent limitations are specified in Section V. Effluent Limitations and Discharge Specifications of the Limited Threat General Order. The following effluent limitations are applicable to this discharge and are contained in Section V. A of the Limited Threat General Order:

1. **pH (Section V.A.1.b.ii).** The pH of all limited threat discharges within the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins (except Goose Creek) shall at all times be within the range of 6.5 and 8.5.

The unnamed tributary to Jones Fork, Silver Creek is not listed under the Clean Water Act 303(d) List of impaired water bodies. Therefore, no additional 303(d) based effluent limitations or monitoring requirements will be added to this Limited Threat General Order.

RECEIVING WATER LIMITATIONS

The Limited Threat General Order includes receiving surface water limitations in Section VIII.A. Receiving Water Limitations are based on water quality objectives contained in the Basin Plan for the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basin and are a required part of the Limited Threat General Order. Based on the information provided in the NOI, only the following receiving surface water limitations are applicable to this discharge:

- Bacteria (VIII.A.2);
- Biostimulatory substances (VIII.A.3);
- Chemical constituents (VIII.A.4);
- Color (VIII.A.5);
- Dissolved oxygen (VIII.A.6.b.iii);
- Floating material (VIII.A.7);
- Oil and grease (VIII.A.8);
- pH (VIII.A.9.a);
- Pesticides ((VIII.A.10);
- Radioactivity (VIII.A.11);
- Suspended sediments (VIII.A.12);
- Settleable substances (VIII.A.13);
- Suspended material (VIII.A.14);
- Taste and odors (VIII.A.15);
- Temperature (VIII.A.16);
- Toxicity (VIII.A.17); and

- Turbidity (VIII.A.18.a).

MONITORING AND REPORTING

Monitoring and reporting requirements are contained in Attachment C of the Limited Threat General Order. The Discharger is required to comply with the following specific monitoring and reporting requirements for the effluent and receiving water in accordance with Attachment C of the Limited Threat General Order.

Monitoring Locations – The Discharger shall monitor the effluent and receiving water at the specified location as follows:

Table 1. Monitoring Station Locations

Discharge Point Name	Monitoring Location Name	Monitoring Location Description
001	EFF-001	A location where a representative sample of the effluent can be collected prior to discharging to the unnamed tributary to Jones Fork, Silver Creek.

Effluent Monitoring – When discharging to the unnamed tributary to Jones Fork, Silver Creek, the Discharger shall monitor the effluent at EFF-001 as follows:

Table 2. Effluent Monitoring

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Total Flow	MGD	Estimate	1/Day	2,3
pH	standard units	Grab	1/Week	2,3
Turbidity	NTU	Grab	1/Week	2,3
Temperature	°F	Grab	1/Week	2,3
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	Grab	1/Week	2,3

² A hand-held field meter may be used, provided the meter utilizes a U.S. EPA-approved algorithm/method and is calibrated and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. A calibration and maintenance log for each meter used for monitoring required by this Monitoring and Reporting Program shall be maintained at the Facility.

³ Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 C.F.R. part 136 or by methods approved by the Central Valley Water Board or the State Water Board.

Receiving Water Monitoring – Receiving water monitoring in the unnamed tributary to Jones Fork, Silver Creek is not required since the upstream receiving water flow is the discharge from the toe drain that will be captured and treated as part of the Project and the next confluence with a stream is approximately 0.5 miles away, which prohibits a valid comparison of upstream and downstream monitoring data. The Project is also a short term discharge with construction expected to last approximately six weeks. For these reasons, receiving water monitoring would not provide sufficient information to evaluate compliance with receiving water limitations. Where feasible, compliance with the receiving water limitations will be evaluated through monitoring of the Project's effluent.

Monitoring Report Submittals - Monitoring in accordance with the Limited Threat General Order shall begin upon initiation of discharge. Monitoring reports shall be submitted to the Central Valley Water Board on a quarterly basis, beginning with the **Third Quarter 2017**. This report shall be submitted on **1 November 2017**. If monitoring samples were not obtained within 24 hours of initiation of the

discharge, the Discharger must document the reasons in the corresponding monitoring report. If the discharge has not begun there is no need to monitor. However, a monitoring report must be submitted stating that there has been no discharge. Table 3, below, summarizes the monitoring report due dates required under the Limited Threat General Order. Quarterly monitoring reports must be submitted until your coverage is formally terminated in accordance with the Limited Threat General Order, even if there is no discharge during the reporting quarter.

Table 3. Monitoring Periods and Reporting Schedule

Sampling Frequency	Monitoring Period Begins On...	Quarterly Report Due Date
1/Day, 1/Week, 1/Month, 1/Quarter	First Day of Discharge	1 May (1 Jan – 31 Mar) 1 Aug (1 Apr – 30 Jun) 1 Nov (1 Jul – 30 Sep) 1 Feb, of following year (1 Oct – 31 Dec)

GENERAL INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS

The Discharger must notify Central Valley Water Board staff within 24 hours of having knowledge of 1) the start of each new discharge, 2) noncompliance, and 3) when the discharge ceases. The Central Valley Water Board shall be notified immediately if any effluent limit violation is observed during implementation of the Project.

Discharge of material other than what is described in the application is prohibited. The required annual fee (as specified in the annual billing you will receive from the State Water Resources Control Board) shall be submitted until this NOA is officially terminated. You must notify this office in writing when the discharge regulated by the Limited Threat General Order is no longer necessary by submitting the Request for Termination of Coverage (Attachment E). If a timely written request is not received, the Discharger will be required to pay additional annual fees as determined by the State Water Resources Control Board.

ENFORCEMENT

Failure to comply with the Limited Threat General Order may result in enforcement actions, which could include civil liability. Effluent limitation violations are subject to a Mandatory Minimum Penalty (MMP) of \$3,000 per violation. In addition, late monitoring reports may be subject to MMPs or discretionary penalties of up to \$1,000 per day late. When discharges do not occur during a quarterly report monitoring period, the Discharger must still submit a quarterly certified Monitoring Report indicating that no discharge occurred to avoid being subject to enforcement actions.

COMMUNICATION

All documents, including monitoring reports, response to inspections, written notifications, and documents submitted to comply with this NOA and the Limited Threat General Order, should be submitted to the NPDES Compliance Unit, Attention: Kari Holmes. Ms. Holmes can be reached at (916) 464-4623 or Kari.Holmes@waterboards.ca.gov.

We have transitioned to a paperless office, therefore, please convert all documents to a searchable Portable Document Format (pdf) and email them to centralvalleysacramento@waterboards.ca.gov. **Please include the following information in the email:** Attention: NPDES Compliance Unit; Discharger: Sacramento Municipal Utilities District; Facility: Ice House Reservoir Auxiliary Dam Project; County: El Dorado; and the CIWQS place ID 838680 in the body of the email. Documents that are 50 megabytes or larger must be transferred to a DVD, or flash drive and mailed to our office, attention

Jon Bertolino
Manager – SMUD Hydro Assets
Ice House Reservoir Auxiliary Dam Project

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“ECM Mailroom-NPDES”. Please include the attached Monitoring Report Transmittal Form as the first page of each monitoring report.

Any person aggrieved by this action of the Central Valley Water Board may petition the State Water Board to review the action in accordance with California Water Code section 13320 and California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 2050 and following. The State Water Board must receive the petition by 5:00 p.m., 30 days after the date of this NOA, except that if the thirtieth day following the date of this Order falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or state holiday, the petition must be received by the State Water Board by 5:00 p.m. on the next business day. Copies of the law and regulations applicable to filing petitions may be found on the internet at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality or will be provided upon request.

Original Signed by Adam Laputz for

Pamela C. Creedon
Executive Officer

Enclosures (2): General Order R5-2016-0076 (Discharger only)
Monitoring Report Transmittal Form (Discharger only)

cc: David Smith, U.S. EPA, Region IX, San Francisco (email only)
Afrooz Farsimadan, Division of Water Quality, State Water Board, Sacramento (email only)

ATTACHMENT A – PROJECT LOCATION MAP
ICE HOUSE RESERVOIR AUXILIARY DAM PROJECT, EL DORADO COUNTY
DISCHARGE POINT 001



1 in = 100 ft

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<p>Treatment Schematic Ice House Auxiliary Dam Toe Drain Replacement Notice of Intent - General Order R5-2016-0076</p> 	<p>Map Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ UARP Facilities● Dewatering Site▲ Discharge Point	
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